

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for permanently obturating holes, especially in metal sheets or plastic parts of automobile bodies, by
fixing an at least partly single-sidedly self-adhesively treated diecut having a backing, in particular a textile backing, whose area is greater than the area of the hole to be obturated and which is provided, in particular centrally, on the adhesively treated side with a non-foamingly expanded foam body, said fixing being carried out on the hole in such a way that the hole is completely covered by the diecut and the foam body is located within the hole,
heating the diecut with the foam body in such a way that the foam body foamingly expands,
the supply of heat being continued until the foamingly expanded foam body completely fills and/or covers the hole,
~~the foamingly expanded foam body cooling and hardening the foamingly expanded foam body.~~
2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, characterized in that ~~in that~~ wherein the diecut is provided with adhesive over its full area beneath the foam body.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 or 2, characterized in that, wherein the unfoamed foam body is composed of polyurethane or, in particular, EVA foam and/or has a thickness of 1.5 to 4 mm.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of at least one of claims 1 to 3, characterized in that claim 1, wherein the diecut has an adhesive coating of natural rubber and/or a PVC coating or acrylic coating on the side opposite from the adhesive.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of at least one of the preceding claims, characterized in that claim 1, wherein backing material used for the diecut comprises woven cotton fabric having in particular a weft count of 70 to 80 and/or a warp count of 70 to 80.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of at least one of the preceding claims, characterized in that claim 1, wherein the foaming expansion of the diecut by supply of heat takes place during the conventional coating operation on the body shell, in particular during the drying of the body shell after coating or after cathodic electrodeposition.